

identified and segregated project account for each project. The project account will be established out of the amounts by which the maximum annual commitment exceeds the amount actually paid out under the HAP contract each year. HUD will make payments from this account for housing assistance payments as needed to cover increases in contract rents or decreases in tenant income and other payments for costs specifically approved by the Secretary.

(2) If the HUD-approved estimate of required annual payments under the HAP contract for a fiscal year exceeds the maximum annual commitment for that fiscal year plus the current balance in the project account, HUD will, within a reasonable time, take such steps authorized by section 8(c)(6) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note), as may be necessary, to assure that payments under the HAP contract will be adequate to cover increases in contract rents and decreases in tenant income.

**§ 891.575 Leasing to eligible families.**

(a) *Availability of assisted units for occupancy by eligible families.* (1) During the term of the HAP contract, a Borrower shall make available for occupancy by eligible families the total number of units for which assistance is committed under the HAP contract. For purposes of this section, making units available for occupancy by eligible families means that the Borrower:

- (i) Is conducting marketing in accordance with § 891.600(a);
- (ii) Has leased or is making good faith efforts to lease the units to eligible and otherwise acceptable families, including taking all feasible actions to fill vacancies by renting to such families;
- (iii) Has not rejected any such applicant family except for reasons acceptable to HUD.

(2) If the Borrower is temporarily unable to lease all units for which assistance is committed under the HAP contract to eligible families, one or more units may, with the prior approval of HUD, be leased to otherwise eligible families that do not meet the income eligibility requirements of part 813 of this chapter. Failure on the part of the

Borrower to comply with these requirements is a violation of the HAP contract and grounds for all available legal remedies, including an action for specific performance of the HAP contract, suspension or debarment from HUD programs, and reduction of the number of units under the HAP contract as set forth in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Reduction of number of units covered by the HAP contract.* HUD may reduce the number of units covered by the HAP contract to the number of units available for occupancy by eligible families if:

(1) The Borrower fails to comply with the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section; or

(2) Notwithstanding any prior approval by HUD, HUD determines that the inability to lease units to eligible families is not a temporary problem.

(c) *Restoration.* HUD will agree to an amendment of the HAP contract to provide for subsequent restoration of any reduction made under paragraph (b) of this section if:

(1) HUD determines that the restoration is justified by demand;

(2) The Borrower otherwise has a record of compliance with the Borrower's obligations under the HAP contract; and

(3) Contract and budget authority is available.

(d) *Applicability.* In accordance with section 555 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section apply to all contracts. An owner who had leased an assisted unit to an ineligible family consistent with the regulations in effect at the time will continue to lease the unit to that family. However, the owner must make the unit available for occupancy by an eligible family when the ineligible family vacates the unit.

(e) *Occupancy by families that are not elderly or handicapped.* HUD may permit units in the project to be leased to other than elderly or handicapped families if:

(1) The Borrower has made reasonable efforts to lease assisted and unassisted units to eligible families;

(2) The Borrower has been granted HUD approval under paragraph (a) of this section; and

(3) The Borrower is temporarily unable to achieve or maintain a level of occupancy sufficient to prevent financial default and foreclosure under the Section 202 loan documents. HUD approval under paragraph (e)(3) of this section will be of limited duration. HUD may impose terms and conditions to this approval that are consistent with program objectives and necessary to protect its interest in the Section 202 loan.

**§ 891.580 HAP contract administration.**

HUD is responsible for the administration of the HAP contract.

**§ 891.585 Default by Borrower.**

(a) *HAP contract provisions.* The HAP contract will provide:

(1) That if HUD determines that the Borrower is in default under the HAP contract, HUD will notify the Borrower of the actions required to be taken to cure the default and of the remedies to be applied by HUD including an action for specific performance under the HAP contract, reduction or suspension of housing assistance payments and recovery of overpayments, where appropriate; and

(2) That if the Borrower fails to cure the default, HUD has the right to terminate the HAP contract or to take other corrective action.

(b) *Loan provisions.* Additional provisions governing default under the section 202 loan are included in the regulatory agreement and other loan documents.

**§ 891.590 Notice upon HAP contract expiration.**

(a) *Notice required.* The HAP contract will provide that the Borrower will, at least one year before the end of the HAP contract term, notify each family leasing an assisted unit of any increase in the amount the family will be required to pay as rent as a result of the expiration.

(b) *Service requirements.* The notice under paragraph (a) of this section shall be accomplished by sending a letter by first class mail, properly stamped and addressed, to the family

at its address at the project, with a proper return address; and serving a copy of the notice on any adult person answering the door at the leased dwelling unit, or if no adult responds, by placing the notice under or through the door, if possible, or else by affixing the notice to the door. Service shall not be considered to be effective until both required notices have been accomplished. The date on which the notice shall be considered to be received by the family shall be the date on which the Borrower mails the first class letter provided for in paragraph (b) of this section, or the date on which the notice provided for in paragraph (b) of this section is properly given, whichever is later.

(c) *Contents of notice.* The notice shall advise each affected family that, after the expiration date of the HAP contract, the family will be required to bear the entire cost of the rent and that the Borrower may, subject to requirements and restrictions contained in the regulatory agreement, the lease, and State or local law, change the rent. The notice also shall state:

(1) The actual (if known) or the estimated rent that will be charged following the expiration of the HAP contract;

(2) The difference between the new rent and the total tenant payment toward rent under the HAP contract; and

(3) The date the HAP contract will expire.

(d) *Certification to HUD.* The Borrower shall give HUD a certification that families have been notified in accordance with this section and shall attach to the certification an example of the text of the notice.

(e) *Applicability.* This section applies to all HAP contracts entered into under an agreement to enter into a housing assistance payments contract executed on or after October 1, 1981, or entered into under such an agreement executed before October 1, 1981 but renewed or amended after February 9, 1995.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2502-0371)